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Charges laid after stolen truck found stuck in snowbank

ROBBERY A couple of good Samaritans lent more than a helping hand to two men whose truck was stuck in the snow Sunday, after they realized it was likely stolen.

The pair found the truck stuck in a snow bank with two men inside near 120 Avenue and 43 Street just after 8 a.m. They realized the ignition was damaged and called police.

The men fled, but were shortly apprehended by officers. It was soon discovered the suspects matched the description of a pair wanted in a robbery.

A 16-year-old boy and a 19-year-old man were charged. **METRO EDMONTON**

Sports pg 13

Canadians strike out versus Italy

Riding the Recession

Now through the end of March, Metro will share advice on how to cut down on expenses and navigate your way through the recession.

Health

- How to deal with recession stress without pulling your hair out, pg 19

Tomorrow

- Put the brakes on car maintenance costs and keep the mechanic away.

Later this week

- Movies that will take your mind off your own financial problems.

ShareYourViews

edmontonletters@metronews.ca

Fashion Ooh la la!



Models present creations by Belgian designer Veronique Leroy as part of her fall/winter 2009-10 women's ready-to-wear collection for French fashion house Leonard during Paris Fashion Week yesterday. For more dirt on the week's shows and events, check out Kenya Hunt's blog at metronews.ca.

\$6B loan for Alberta?

JEFF CUMMINGS
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A debt-free Alberta could soon be borrowing billions to pay for infrastructure projects in order to create jobs in an economy that has been rocked in recent months, says Premier Ed Stelmach.

Stelmach said the government should look into taking advantage of low interest rates by borrowing \$6 billion to help the province catch up with its infrastructure projects.

He said it's an ideal time to do it when the province has a triple-A credit rating

— a rating better than the federal government's.

"Why wouldn't we do it — it's a good business decision," said Stelmach, after being questioned by Alberta Liberal finance critic Dave Taylor during question period yesterday.

"This is like putting money in between the mattresses — we'll draw on it when our revenues drop and that's very good planning."

Quipped Taylor: "He's talking about using somebody else's money from somebody else's mattress — that would be the taxpayers of Alberta who are going to have to pay this

"Debt costs money and debt isn't free."

Scott Hennig, CTF

money back with interest."

The talk of borrowing billions came one day after the premier said on a Sunday morning radio show that his provincial government must take advantage of the 0.5 per cent Canadian bank rate.

"If we could borrow money at one, one and a half per cent, it makes good sense because you're getting a third of the saving on the infrastructure,"

Stelmach told the Making

Money radio show on CFCW.

Scott Hennig, Alberta director of the Canadian Taxpayers Federation, called Stelmach's idea "terrible."

"Debt costs money and debt isn't free," he said,

"We're not borrowing this money for free and government never pays off debt as quickly as they run it up ... Didn't we learn this in the 1980s and 1990s when governments were being pounded with debt repayment costs?"

Alberta was officially declared debt-free in 2004 after then-premier Ralph Klein wiped a \$23-billion provincial debt.

City barista reaches finals in plus-size model search

VICTORIA HANDYSIDES
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An Edmonton woman is proving that you don't have to be a size zero to be beautiful.

Chantelle Thompson, 23, will board a plane bound for Toronto next week, to find out if she's been selected as the winner in Canada's Plus Size Model Search.

The barista was recently selected to be in the top 10 for the contest, sponsored by plus size retailers, Penningtons, Addition Elle, MXM, and LouLou Magazine.

Chantelle Thompson She bashfully admitted that before entering, she'd never considered modelling before.

"I never really thought it was a possibility for me," she said. "This is something that hasn't been put in the spotlight before by society."

Thompson surpassed thousands for the spot. The five-foot-nine, size-18 blond said that though she spent much of her life ashamed of her body shape, she's never felt more alive.

"I'm not perfect. I'm not a size zero, or even a two, or a four. I'm a bigger person, and I'm happy with myself," she said. "One day I decided that I feel great and embrace myself, and show people that they can be confident as well."

If chosen, Thompson will receive a one-year modelling contract.

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STARS overwhelmed with ticket sales

STARS says it has sold out of its largest ever lottery yesterday, even before its early bird deadline. The lottery generated roughly \$10 million for the non-profit air ambulance service. **METRO EDMONTON**

Local



Dane Cook headed to town

Dane Cook is packing up his one-man show and heading to Rexall Place. Tickets for the June 7 show go on sale this Friday through Ticketmaster.

METRO EDMONTON

News in brief

DEBT The city's pocketbook took a bit of a hit last year as it racked up a \$23-million debt. It's the first debt for the city since 2002, but the city's rainy day fund — its Fiscal Stabilization Reserve — is expected to cover the costs. A city report says investment losses, cash needed for property tax appeals and a subsidy for last July's Rexall Indy race were all factors in the loss.

CRIME Police are on the hunt for a gunman, after bullets were sprayed at a west-end home Sunday morning. The call came in around 5:45 a.m. Shell casings were found around the home upon investigation. Nobody was injured in the shooting. Reports that the gunfire may be drug-related have circulated.

METRO EDMONTON

Tackling exploitation

JEFF CUMMINGS

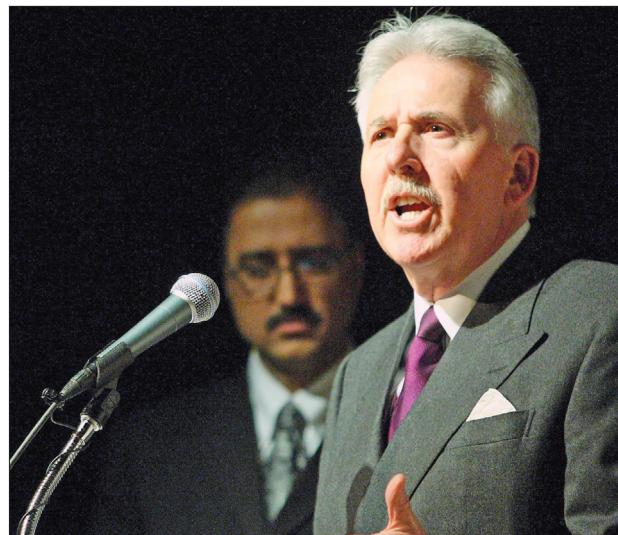
jeff.cummings@metronews.ca

Roughly 600 adults and children are sexually exploited each year in Edmonton and there are many more cases in the city that are not reported to authorities, say police.

And after proclaiming this week as Sexual Exploitation Awareness Week in Edmonton with city politicians and members of Safedmonton, police Chief Mike Boyd says it's a growing issue in every city across Canada.

"This has become a global issue," said Boyd. "We can never turn our back on this important issue and we will continue to find more and effective ways to get the job done in preventing the victimization."

The majority of victims in sexual exploitation cases — which include child pornog-



Edmonton police Chief Mike Boyd speaks to a crowd gathered in the Library theatre downtown yesterday afternoon for a conference on sexual exploitation issues.

raphy, sexual assaults, and prostitution — are people who are the most vulnerable like children or people dealing with health issues or addictions, says Kate

Quinn, chair of Safedmonton's sexual exploitation awareness committee.

Quinn said the awareness week will give people a chance to learn how to en-

"This has become a global issue ... We can never turn our back."

Police Chief Mike Boyd

courage victims to get help, along with reporting "exploiters" to authorities.

"The more people we have who are being observant and willing to take action, the more we can decrease sexual exploitation in our communities," said Quinn.

Boyd said criminals around the world are making \$1 billion by exploiting children online, but groups need to work together to clamp down on the problem.

The committee will be hosting a panel discussion on sexual exploitation at the Stanley Milner Library at 7 p.m. Thursday.

Severe cold batters local homeless

JEFF CUMMINGS

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TEMPERATURES Albertans have been battling the bitter cold for the past few days, leaving one homeless Calgary man dead, and an Edmonton woman missing frostbitten fingers and toes.

Police say a passerby discovered the woman lying on the ground between two dumpsters near 65 Avenue and 177 Street Sunday morning. An officer carried her into his patrol car to keep her warm.

The officer used his jacket and an emergency blanket to cover the woman, who was suffering from hypothermia.

"From my understanding, she may lose some fingers and toes," EPS spokeswoman Karen Carlson said.

Police haven't confirmed if the woman was homeless, but they do say the case isn't considered suspicious. Meanwhile, a homeless man in Calgary is dead after a brutal winter storm ripped through the city Saturday.

The 53-year-old man was found in some bushes by a person walking his dog through a park in the city's northeast on Sunday morning.

Though an autopsy has yet to be performed, police say the man's death is not being considered suspicious.

Sentencing in Butler murder case begins

VICTORIA HANDYSIDES

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CRIME The sentencing hearing for a man found guilty of beating his sister-in-law to death with a toilet tank lid began yesterday, with testimony from a Regina police officer and gripping statements from the victim's family.

Kenneth Butler, 26, sat

silent in a Court of Queen's Bench prisoner's box, staring forward blankly between sips of water, occasionally raising his eyebrows through testimony.

"He was yelling he wanted to kill someone, but it wasn't directed at anyone at that point," said Const. Craig Solomon, a Regina police officer who happened upon Butler screaming on a street corner

weeks before the brutal murder.

"He kept repeating that he was from outer space — from Saturn."

He had been living in Regina, because his brother, Michael, bought a house and helped him move.

After his altercation with police, Kenneth Butler admitted himself into a psychiatric hospital. He re-

turned to Edmonton after his release.

Stephanie Butler, 25, was found dead inside her bedroom by her father, Douglas Mah Poy, on April 7, 2007.

He took the stand yesterday, explaining the gruesome reality of how the gruesome death has affected his family.

The sentencing hearing is expected to last all week.

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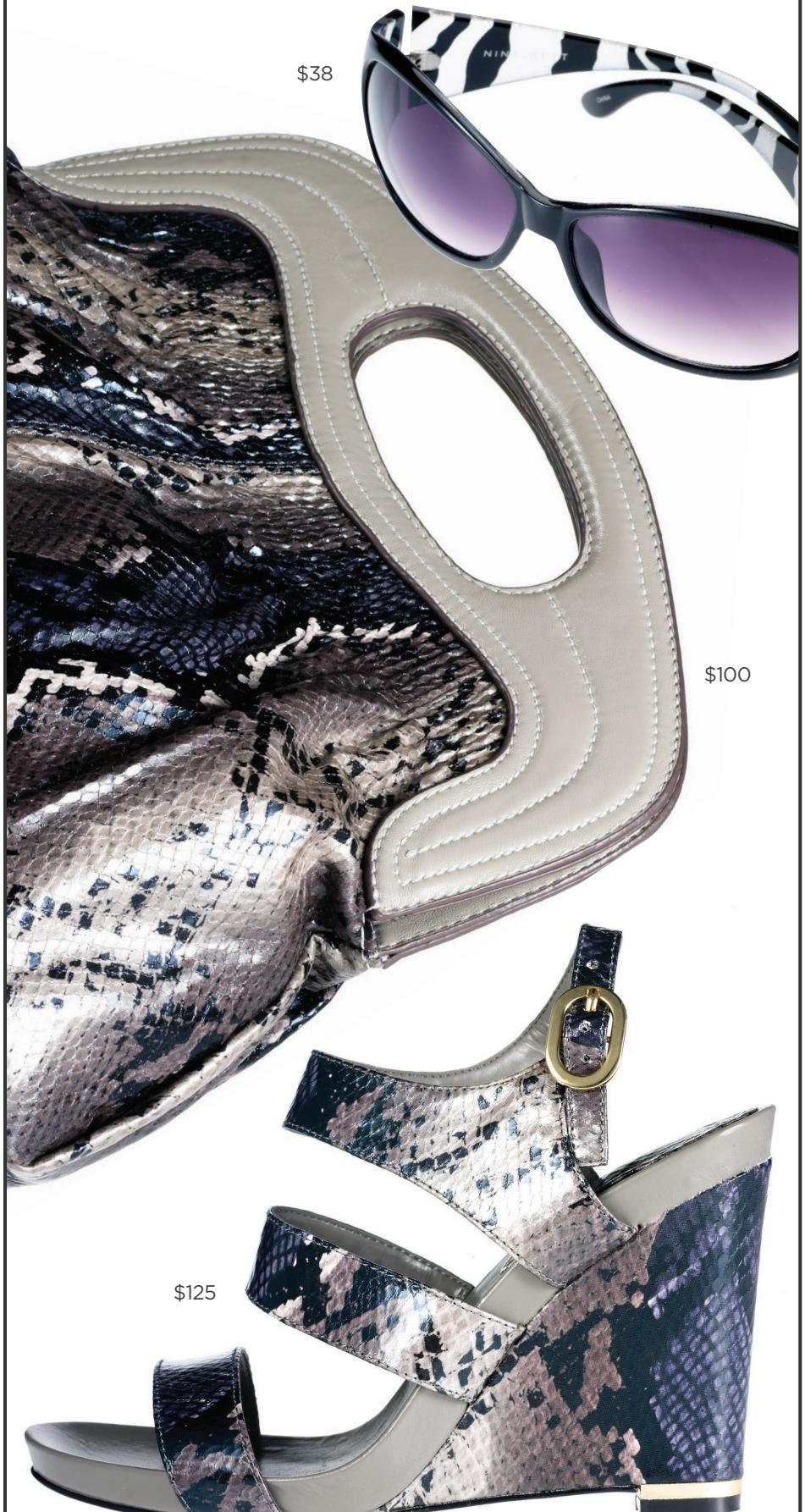
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THE BAY



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Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Facebook photos lead to arrest

RCMP in Selkirk, Man., have arrested an 18-year-old man who they say documented his graffiti spree on Facebook. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

4

Canada

Conditions right for avalanches: Experts

Keith Grasdal knows snow.

Three decades of snowmobiling in the east Kootenay region of B.C. have taught him the only certainty about avalanches is the direction they come down.

"If you're in the wrong spot at the wrong time, it's just one of those things," said Grasdal yesterday.

It has been a rough year for avalanches, especially in southeastern B.C., where two Calgary skiers died over the weekend after an accident in a permanently closed avalanche spot near the Kicking Horse Resort in Golden.

Grasdal, a member of the Cranbrook Snowmobile Club, said this season there was early snowfall and now there's soft, sugary snow underneath a layer of crust with colder-than-normal temperatures keeping the

"You live in the mountains and avalanches come down. That's just what happens."

Keith Grasdal, snowmobiler

snow, especially in the backcountry, unstable.

In December, eight snowmobilers died after three avalanches swept 11 men off their machines. Grasdal, who has caused minor avalanches but considers himself lucky never to have been caught in one, said no one ever forgets the risks.

"You live in the mountains and avalanches come down. That's just what happens."

This season already there have been 18 deaths associated with avalanches in the area; over the past 10 years, the average has been 14 fatalities.

University of Calgary ava-

lanche researcher Bruce Jamieson said there was less snowfall this year than normal and with less snow, the number of avalanche fatalities were predictable.

"When we see a thinner-than-average snow pack we get more weak layers in the snow, and those are more often (triggered) by skiers and snowmobilers and snowboarders," said Jamieson. "When we saw the shallow snow pack and the cold temperatures in December, we knew it was likely to be one of the winters where there was an (above-average) number of recreational fatalities."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Funding Canadian media fund



MacKay to get backing from U.S. for NATO post: Report

NATO Defence Minister Peter MacKay, pressed about media reports that he could be in the running for the job of NATO secretary general, said yesterday that nationality should not be an obstacle for the post, but shied away from saying he was interested.

Washington Post columnist Jim Hoagland wrote this week that U.S. Vice-President Joe Biden was set to press

MacKay's candidacy when he visits Alliance headquarters today.

"I don't think that traditions, in the sense that geography should be a restriction on any position within NATO, should apply given the fact that Canada ... is a 60-year participant in NATO," MacKay told a news conference.

Tradition

- The job has always gone to a European. The current secretary general, Dutchman Jaap de Hoop Scheffer, is due to step down in July.

News in brief

MILITARY So many of the armoured vehicles used to train Canadian soldiers for the mission in Afghanistan have broken down that the situation is becoming critical, Lt.-Gen. Andrew Leslie, commander of land forces, said yesterday.

ADVERTISING Eight Calgary buses started displaying atheist ads paid for by the Canadi-

an Free Thought Association yesterday, which read: "There probably is no God. Now stop worrying and enjoy your life."

TENTATIVE DEAL General Motors Corp. is a step closer to securing billions of dollars in emergency loans after striking a tentative cost-savings deal with the Canadian Auto Workers union.

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Researchers discredit anti-malaria drug
The anti-malaria drug quinacrine does not appear to extend the lives of people with the human form of mad cow disease, despite encouraging results from experiments with mice, British researchers said. **REUTERS**

World



Washers liberated women: Vatican

The Vatican newspaper says that perhaps the washing machine did more to liberate women in the 20th century than the pill or the right to work. The submission was made in a lengthy article titled *The Washing Machine and the Liberation of Women — Put in the Detergent, Close the Lid and Relax.*

REUTERS

News in brief

CRIME A former Swiss investment banker was jailed for six years on Monday for trying to blackmail Germany's wealthiest woman, the heiress to the BMW car empire, with secret video of their lovemaking. Helg Sgarbi admitted at that he had seduced heiress Susanne Klatten and three other wealthy women, persuading them to pay him almost \$12.64 million US under various false pretexts.

CONFLICT The killing of two soldiers by dissident republicans in Northern Ireland followed by the killing of a police officer will not be allowed to derail the peace process in the British-ruled province. U.K. Prime Minister Gordon Brown said yesterday. British troops would not be put back onto the streets of Northern Ireland, a senior military official said, as leaders tried to ensure that the attack did not reverse progress made since the Good Friday peace deal in 1998.

REUTERS

Germany Evolution of Barbie



A teenager looks at a Barbie doll version of German Chancellor Angela Merkel yesterday, during a 50th anniversary event at a department store in Hamburg. Barbie has chosen to honour Merkel as a very modern role model for girls around the world.

CHRISTIAN CHARISUS/REUTERS

Stem cell limits lifted

Obama repeals restrictions set by Bush administration

U.S. President Barack Obama lifted restrictions on federal funding of human embryonic stem cell research yesterday, angering abortion opponents, but cheering those who believe the study could produce treatments for many diseases.

"We will lift the ban on federal funding for promising embryonic stem cell research," Obama said to vigorous applause at a White House gathering.

"We will also vigorously support scientists who pursue this research. And we will aim for America to lead the world in the discoveries it one day may yield."

Shares of companies specializing in stem cell research burst upward on the news, with Geron

Progress made

- U.S. scientists said they have taken an important step toward making an artificial life form by making a ribosome — the cell's factory. The ribosome makes the proteins that carry out key business for all forms of life.

Corp. up by as much as much as 35 per cent and StemCells Inc. up 73 per cent at one point. Other related company shares rose, too.

The decision was a clear repudiation of the approach taken by Obama's predecessor, George W. Bush. U.S. law limits the use of federal money to make human stem cells, but Bush tightened the re-

strictions even further to include work using such cells.

Bush's decision prompted charges that he was basing his decision on politics and religion rather than science. Religious conservatives who supported Bush generally opposed embryonic stem cell research because it involves destruction of embryos, which they view as human life.

"When it comes to stem cell research, rather than furthering discovery, our government has forced what I believe is a false choice between sound science and moral values," Obama said. "As a person of faith, I believe we are called to care for each other and work to ease human suffering."

REUTERS

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Comment & Views

Newt's economic crystal ball predictions

InBusiness

Charles Davies



When even Newt Gingrich has an opinion about the duration of the recession, you know economic forecasting is now officially as out of control as, say, U.S. mortgage lending was a

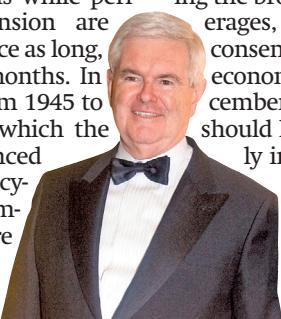
year and a half ago. Reasonable people think we'll hit bottom anywhere from a few months to a few years out. Gingrich, a former House of Representatives Speaker and all-around gloomy anti-bailout Republican, thinks the U.S. won't be in good shape for three to five years.

But really, though, how long is it going to take before job losses, bailouts, falling share prices and slumping GDP numbers yield to good news? If history is any guide, Canada's economy should look a lot better by late 2010.

How do I know this? Well, the National Bureau of Economic Research in the U.S. records 32 economic cycles since 1854 — a cycle being the period from one peak of economic activity to another. On average, recessions last 17 months while periods of expansion are more than twice as long, typically 38 months. In the period from 1945 to 2001, during which the U.S. experienced 10 economic cycles, the numbers are more congenial. Post-war re-

cessions average 10 months with growth periods running 57 months, perhaps a tribute to the economic management tools developed in the wake of the Great Depression.

But let's be cautious. Using the broader, 155-year averages, and accepting the consensus that the U.S. economy peaked in December 2007, Americans should hit bottom roughly in May. Thereafter, we could see a gradual return to growth that tops out in about July 2012.



Canada, however, didn't peak until the third quarter of 2008, roughly nine months after the U.S., which suggests we may not even bottom until February 2010. Then, things could improve briskly, paced by a U.S. economy that's already in second gear.

Averages are just averages, of course. And other factors — our national economic dependence on commodities like oil and gas, for example — can make economic forecasting a mug's game.

As a fall back position, consider a doomsday sce-

nario. With the sole exception of the Panic of 1873, when the collapse of the Northern Pacific Railroad triggered a 65-month slide in the U.S., the 43-month Great Depression is the worst North America has endured. Using that standard, the U.S. won't bottom until July 2011 and won't really be humming until late 2012. Which, come to think of it, is pretty much what Newt thinks will happen.

Charles Davies is a veteran business writer and editor who has worked for news organizations and publications including Business Week, Canadian Business, Report On Business magazine, Reuters, and Financial Post.

Views

Should faces be covered in court?



Alia Hogben
metronews.ca

This seemingly simple issue raises major issues about religious rights.

sions.

The judge's decision is being appealed to the Ontario Supreme Court. The Ontario Human Rights Commission has asked for intervener status at the court so it can explain religious rights.

This seemingly simple issue raises major issues about religious rights: The right of the accused, diverse interpretation of religious injunctions and religious/cultural accommodation.

Face covering is demanded by some extreme conservative Muslims, and the Toronto woman is choosing

this conservative interpretation for herself, although this is not required in Islam.

The difficulty for someone like me is that I must respect the woman's choice and I cannot tell the woman she must show her face, and for all I know this particular woman is fully integrated into Canadian society.

However, this conundrum goes beyond the courtroom.

There are some Muslims who are increasing the number of identity markers, for example the niqab, to create a distinct identity, which is leading to self-segregation.

Before I am lambasted, I acknowledge that I am generalizing when I say wearing the niqab creates a separation between a woman and all others — and may, in many instances, restrict full

participation in Canadian society.

Surely we Muslims should be active participants because we cannot fight racism and discrimination nor demand changes if we are not involved as full citizens.

I don't envy the Ontario Supreme Court judge who has to make this Solomon-like decision regarding the conflict between rights.

I am sure the judge will consider the resolution of such cases may strengthen the more conservative elements within the Muslim communities and set precedents for the legal system.

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Michael De Adder
metro

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SALES AGENT POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Former Caisse CEO assumes some responsibility for lossThe former CEO of the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec said yesterday he takes responsibility for some of the fund's \$39.8-billion loss last year. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

Business

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Fewer new homes built

Housing starts drop 12.3%

Canadian housing starts fell by a greater than expected 12.3 per cent in February, marking a sixth consecutive monthly decline and their lowest level since June 2000, as the domestic economy struggles through a major downturn.

Groundbreakings on new homes dropped to a seasonally adjusted annualized rate of 134,600 units last month from 153,500 in January, with declines seen in the single- and multiple-dwelling sectors, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp. said yesterday.

But there was a silver lining in the weak numbers. While it suggests builders are responding to weaker demand, which could have

REUTERS

Numbers

- Construction of urban single-family homes fell 11 per cent to 44,500 units, while multiple dwellings, like condos, dropped 17.5 per cent to 63,300 units.

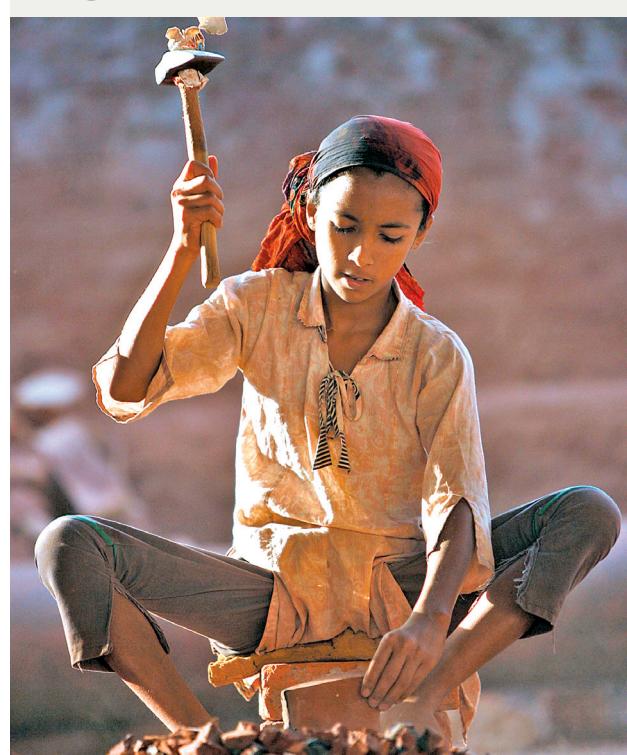
a short-term negative effect on economic activity, it also indicates there may not be a severe oversupply of homes.

"As an economist looking at this, it's good news that the markets are working. They're taking their cues from the price signals and those signals are telling them not to build right now," said Pascal Gauthier, an economist at TD Bank.

REUTERS

Bangladesh Brickworks

ANDREW BIRAJ/REUTERS



A girl smashes bricks as she works at a construction site in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The small pieces of bricks are later used in the construction of buildings. About 25 women are employed at the site and most work 12 hours a day. The daily wage is 60 taka (about \$1.17) for women.

\$50T lost worldwide, study says

MARKETS The global financial crisis slashed the value of financial assets worldwide by \$50 trillion US last year, a study commissioned by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) said yesterday.

Financial asset losses in developing Asia, which suffered more than other emerging markets, totalled \$9.6 trillion, or just over one year's worth of developing Asia's gross domestic product, the study said.

"The previous sense of strength and invulnerability is now gone," said the ADB-sponsored study, noting that "there were concerns about the effect of a shallow recession in the United States, but the general perception was that Asia, the largest regional emerging market group, was doing well."

Based on the study, the estimates measure the losses in equity and bond markets, including those based on mortgages and other assets, and the depreciations of currencies against the U.S. dollar.

REUTERS

U.S. has 'fallen off a cliff:' Buffett

INTERVIEW Warren Buffett said yesterday the U.S. economy had "fallen off a cliff," but would eventually recover, though a rebound could kindle inflation worse than that experienced in the late 1970s.

Speaking on CNBC television, the 78-year-old billionaire called on Democratic and Republican policymakers to set aside partisan differences and unite under President Barack Obama to wage an "economic war" that will fix the economy and restore confidence in banking.

REUTERS

In brief

DRUGS Merck & Co. Inc. said yesterday that it would acquire Schering-Plough Corp. for \$41.1 billion US, uniting the makers of cholesterol drugs Zetia and Vytorin in the second megadeal for Big Pharma in weeks.

REUTERS

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Your Money

EDITOR: NINA.DRAGICEVIC@METRONEWS.CA



If it smells like a scam ...

Q Recently, I received an email with a request to verify information. I replied. Several days later, I was informed by my financial institution my account had been compromised.

— Bernice, Alberta

A New fraudulent schemes are invented everyday and fraudsters work 24/7 and use the most modern of technology. Be vigilant with your personal information and beware the following:

Phishing

- Emails claiming to be legit institutions to obtain personal information.

Dumpster diving

- Fraudsters go through your garbage seeking your bills, bank statements, etc. Use a shredder.

Skimming

- Stealing numbers for your credit/debit cards when processing your card. Be careful next time

Money Matters

Henry Choo Chong

choochonghca@yahoo.ca

you fill up at the pump.

1-900 scam

- An offer in the mail to claim your winnings by calling a 1-900 number. Your cost is per-minute charges, your possible winnings, a loonie or twoonie.

Foreign country scam

- Emails to transfer millions of dollars to your bank account with an eventual request for a small processing fee.

Canada Revenue Agency

- Emails claiming to be CRA requesting personal information in order to process tax refund. This is not the CRA!

Reach Henry Choo Chong, CGA, at choochonghca@yahoo.ca.

Bringing up baby

SmartCookies



Daycare is generally a more affordable option if you have one or two children.

So if you can find a friend with one other child, you would cut the cost of a nanny in half.

Now if you can't find a full-time family member, daycare is often one of the most popular options. However, with daycare spaces being limited and waiting times averaging a year or more, it's a good idea to get on a list early.

But signing up at too many daycares before knowing exactly what you

\$700 to \$1,000 a month, for full-time, licensed daycare, five days a week.

Finding daycare for infants from six months to a year can be more difficult and because of the increased need for staff, it's usually more expensive too. To keep costs down, you can look for a daycare that allows you to pack a lunch for your child — provided you have the time to make it.

You also need to consider the time it takes to drive to your daycare. If it's way off your route to work, you need to factor in gas costs and the hours of operation.

The total cost of a live-in nanny is about \$2,000 a month (depending on location). While their salary is usually around \$1,000 a month, you'll also need to pay for their employment benefits and pension. Plus you'll need to have a spare room in your house. The plus side is you can deduct a portion of their room and board from their salary based on government guidelines. And if you hire through an agency you'll also have to pay the agency a fee, which can vary from a one-time placement fee to a

percentage of their salary. If you have a close friend or neighbour with kids you can nanny share and agree to split the costs of a nanny as some nannies will agree to look after up to four kids in one house. So if you can find a friend with one other child, you would cut the cost of a nanny in half.

For more on child care costs, hop onto smartcookies.com and visit the forum for new or expecting moms. Questions for the Smart Cookies can be emailed to smartcookies@metronews.ca. Tune in Monday nights at 10:30 p.m. for a new episode of Smart Cookies on the W network.

Tune in Monday nights at 10:30 p.m. EST/PST on the W Network and be sure to visit smartcookies.com for more tips.

Investing

Allan Small

Visit metronews.ca to read Allan Small's market update, as well as some ideas for investors.

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Home loan tip

Taking out a loan for a renovation will improve your monthly cash flow and allow you to complete your project in one phase rather than multiple stages. **NEWS CANADA**

Spring Lending

SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR: STEPHANIE.BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA

Do your research before buying a home, experts sayRAFAEL BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

If you're a first-time buyer with a steady financial situation, you might be chomping at the bit to catch a good deal in the current down market — just make sure you crunch the numbers first.

Jim Rawson, a regional manager with Canadian mortgage brokerage firm Invis, says the weak economy has made real estate a buyer's market in most parts of Canada and the spring and summer months could see a wave of buying if bargains continue to make it onto the market.

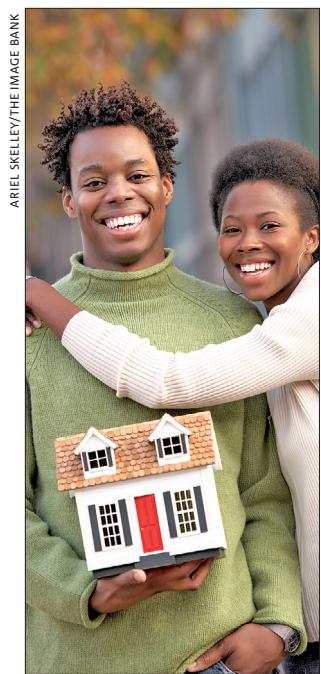
Yet, the economy hasn't shown major signs of an upswing, so you should be wary of biting off more than you can chew.

Bottom line: Don't rush into anything, because you don't need to — do your research, take your time and shop around.

Rawson says the most important thing to do before setting out to buy a house is to get a pre-approval on your mortgage so you'll know exactly how much home you can afford.

"You don't want to go out looking for that first home without knowing how much you can afford to spend. A lot of home buyers will go out and find their dream home only to realize there's no way they could afford it," Rawson said.

If you need a little extra money for your down payment and you are a first-time buyer, you or your partner can take out up to \$25,000 per person from your RRSP for any reason



The weak economy has made real estate a buyer's market.

related to buying a home — including covering closing fees, land transfer taxes or a down payment. You then have 15 years to repay the money back into your RRSP.

Gary Robertson, a finan-

cial adviser with Edward Jones, says you do have to be careful if you start dipping too deeply into things like RRSPs or emergency funds to buy your house, however.

"Don't stretch yourself

to the limit — leave some wiggle room because you need to afford the expenses that come with owning a home.

"Utilities, property taxes, condo fees — all those things have to be added in

and that could make the home not affordable," Robertson said.

Plan for the worst possible scenario and make sure you can adjust accordingly, as current interest rates can seem deceptively low.

"Be pessimistic about the future of interest rates. If you're paying 4 per cent now, you're probably going to be paying 6 to 7 per cent upon renewal of your mortgage," Robertson said.

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Newly announced tax credits benefit home purchase and renovation.

The Federal Government has announced tax credits that will deliver substantial savings to consumers looking to purchase or renovate. These include a \$750 tax credit for first-time home buyers and a temporary Home Renovation Tax Credit of up to \$1,350 on eligible renovations.

Time-limited borrowing offers:

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2. Waived Set-Up Service Fee on CIBC Home Power line of credit
3. Waived first year annual fee on CIBC Dividend Platinum Visa card

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12 spring lending



Earn credit for renos

Break can reduce taxes by 15 per cent

JON TATTRIE
for Metro Canada



"Anyone who's thinking of doing any kind of home renovation over the next few years should probably accelerate that if they can afford to."

Jamie Golombek

mum credit of \$1,350.

"They really have to be expenses that are of an 'enduring nature,' something integral to the dwelling. That includes the cost of labour and building materials," Golombek explained.

Renovating your kitchen or bathroom, or putting in new carpeting, hard-wood floors, a new deck or other extension, furnace, roof, driveway, interior and exterior painting, in-ground swimming pools and landscaping all qualify.

The Home Renovation Tax Credit is valid for any home-renovation expenses paid after Jan. 27 and before Feb. 1, 2010. Tax-payers can claim a credit that reduces taxes payable by 15 per cent of expenses over \$1,000 and under \$10,000. A bit of math reveals that gives you a maxi-

Things like furniture, appliances, carpet cleaning, house cleaning and snow removal don't qualify.

Golombek reminds people to save their receipts, and notes that Cra-arc.gc.ca has a list of what qualifies.

The tax break is also good for the owner of vacation property.

When it comes time to do the work, do the math first, says Janice Rice of Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation. "In this case, the pen is mightier than the hammer."

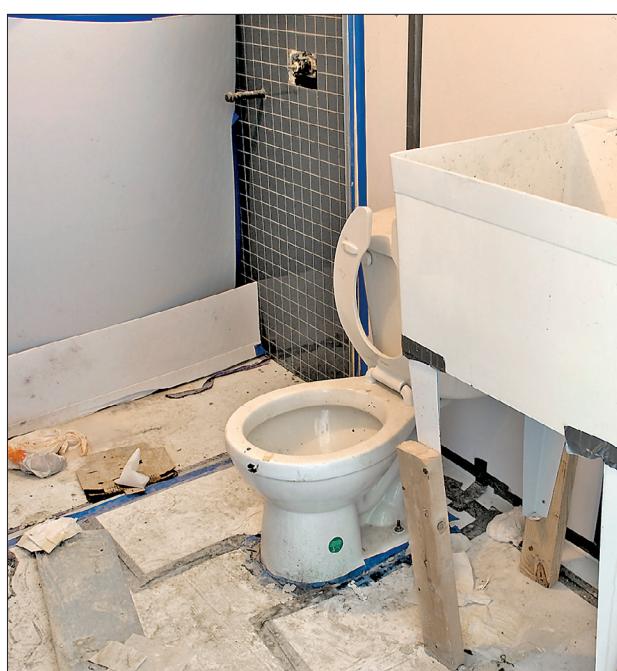
First, assess what you want to renovate and how much that will cost. Next, explore your financing options. If the cost is low, credit cards, renovation loans or lines of credit may be the best fit.

"These products are excellent for renovations someone wants to pay off in a short period of time," Rice says. The interest rates are higher, but the loans are more convenient.

If you have major plans, look at spreading the cost over a longer period with a mortgage. That can be a conventional mortgage, which will typically go up to 80 per cent of the property value, or a CMHC-insured mortgage.

"That allows the home owner to get a maximum mortgage amount of 95 per cent," she explains. "It gives them the ability to finance a larger-scale renovation over a longer period of time at very competitive interest rates."

Check out cmhc-schl.gc.ca for a range of financing options.



Renovating your bathroom is an expense that would qualify for a tax break that was introduced in the 2009 federal budget.

Barkley released after three-day sentence

Former NBA star Charles Barkley was released from an Arizona jail yesterday after serving a three-day sentence on a drunk driving conviction. Barkley spent about 36 hours in jail after getting 12 hours of work release Sunday and yesterday. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

13

Sports



Sharapova back for doubles

Three-time major champion Maria Sharapova will return to the WTA Tour this week after missing more than seven months by playing doubles at an event in Indian Wells, Calif. Sharapova, who has not played since pulling out of a tournament in Montreal last July with a right shoulder injury, will compete in doubles for the first time in nearly four years, teaming with Elena Vesnina.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: JOHN.CHICK@METRONEWS.CA

Maas re-signs with Eskimos

CFL The Edmonton Eskimos re-signed veteran quarterback Jason Maas for one year with an option for 2010, the club announced yesterday. Maas played in three games last season and went 26-for-44 with 340 yards and one interception. Over nine seasons in the CFL, he is 1,228-for-2,003 with 16,763 yards, 81 touchdowns and 60 interceptions. The Eskimos traded Maas to Hamilton following the 2005 Grey Cup win. He was dealt to Montreal in 2007 before re-signing with the Esks in '08. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

WORLD BASEBALL CLASSIC

Italy 6 Canada 2



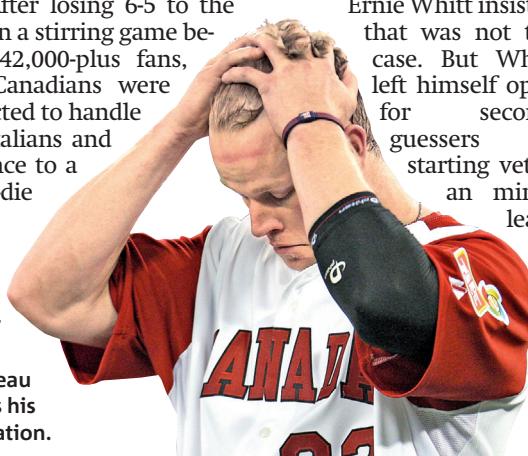
It's over. Team Canada, which captured the collective imagination of Canadian baseball fans with a great performance against the U.S. Saturday, bowed out of the World Baseball Classic last night with what was undeniably an embarrassing effort against Italy at the Rogers Centre.

Canada, let down by its pitching, was never in it against the underdog Italians, who scored four runs in the first four innings en

route to a 6-2 win that eliminated Canada from the double knockout global tournament. This was undeniably a bitter pill to swallow for the Canadians, who were playing with a great lineup in their home country. After losing 6-5 to the USA in a stirring game before 42,000-plus fans, the Canadians were expected to handle the Italians and advance to a do-or-die game

tonight against Venezuela. Was Canada looking past the Italians, a squad which manager Marco Mazzieri said was based mostly on "guys who play (in Europe) and have day jobs"?

Canadian manager Ernie Whitt insisted that was not the case. But Whitt left himself open for second-guessers by starting veteran lea-



Justin
Morneau
shows his
frustration.

11

Canadian
runners left
on base
against Italy.

guer Vince Perkins and saving Blue Jays starter Scott Richmond — considered Canada's ace — for a potential game against Venezuela. "If we don't make it to (the Venezuela game), you can write I'm a bonehead for not starting Richmond," Whitt said before the game. "Hopefully we'll be in a position where I won't look like a bonehead."

Perkins led an onslaught of ineffective pitching, which saw six Canadian hurlers surrender seven walks and nine hits.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Caronneau canned by Habs

NHL The Montreal Canadiens fired head coach Guy Carbonneau yesterday, and team general manager Bob Gainey will take over behind the bench.

Carbonneau was in his third season as head coach of the Habs. Viewed by many as one of the pre-season favourites to win the Stanley Cup, the Canadiens currently sit in the fifth position in the Eastern Conference with 77 points, only two points ahead of ninth-place Carolina. Carbonneau led Montreal to a first-place finish in the conference during the 2007-08 season before a disappointing five-game series loss to Philadelphia in the second round. In his two-plus seasons at the helm in Montreal, Carbonneau posted a 124-83-23 record in 230 games. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

On the web

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Learning Curve is a monthly feature that focuses on education and student life. Next month's issue comes out on April 14.

Learning Curve

SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR: STEPHANIE.BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA

Doing double duty

New pupils must adapt to living abroad

LEYLA EMORY
for Metro Canada



International student
Leonie Charlton has twice the work of her peers: The courses she's enrolled in and learning about the city in which they're offered.

"I had never been in winter before I came (to Toronto)," says the Jamaican-born Humber College business student. "So the cold was a shock, but I liked the atmosphere, I liked the society and I liked how it's very accepting."

Charlton feels an international education puts her at an advantage. "We're not one of the more developed nations,

so in order to get a better grasp of how business operates and get an international scope of what really happens outside of my little area, I wanted to choose a more post-industrial nation that is multicultural and accepting. Where you can grow in its society."

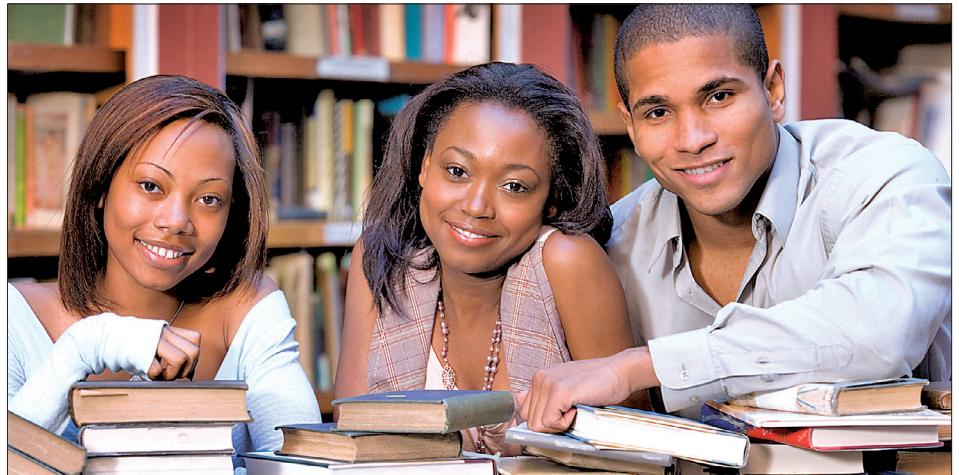
In turn, international students contribute to the growth of society, according to Michelle Suderman, associate director of international student development at the University of British Columbia.

"Students tell us they come away with a much better understanding of the way people in other parts of the world see an issue," Suderman says. "If they're in a class with Canadians

and other international students, they're amazed at how many different ways there are at looking at the same problem."

For Christine Boake, a graduate of Parsons the New School for Design, studying in New York was less of a culture shock but equally rewarding. "You get to experience a different culture and learn to adapt to all its nuances," she says, "but you also represent your own country. I was always very proud that I was Canadian."

Both Boake and Charlton feel that completing a degree abroad puts them at an advantage in the job market. But learning away from home can be difficult.



International students have to adapt to the culture shock of living in a new country on top of taking on a full course load.

For Boake it was the constant upkeep of documentation to get in and out of the country. Charlton is finding her Caribbean work experience is not transferable to the Canadian job market.

For others, it's "getting used to a completely new way of living and often a

completely different language," says Suderman. "Students tell us even small tasks like taking the bus can be complicated because they don't know they have to step down or ring the bell. There's a constant feeling of being a fish out of water."

But "feeling like a for-

eigner is an interesting experience in and of itself," says Boake.

It's part of the education says Charlton: "Explore, get to know things, ask questions. There's never a silly question. If someone's laughing at you, fine. You learn from it."

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EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Bright futures begin here

Students trade sandals for snowsuits

CANDICE WARD
for Metro Edmonton

International Training Department and Sherritt-Ambatov.

Although Edmonton seems like an unusual location for this type of training, Sherritt's nickel refinery in Fort Saskatchewan actually makes it the perfect site for on the job training.

"There is no comparable training supplier in Madagascar; it is like night and day," says Garcia.

Most of these Malagasy students are coming to Edmonton as well-educated and trained engineers but require this training for their key positions at their refinery back home.

"The refinery they are building will be the latest and greatest, it will look like 2010," says Garcia.

The objective of this program is to transfer the latest technologies back to Madagascar.

"These students are very keen and very knowledgeable; they basically picked the cream of the crop," says Garcia. "They are sponges and they absorb a lot of information."

Trading in sandals for snowsuits, these NAIT students are hoping to take back these valued skills to the high-tech nickel and cobalt mine and refinery being built by Sherritt-Ambatov in Madagascar.

"The relationship between NAIT and Sherritt goes way back," says Ignacio Garcia, account manager for the Department of Corporate and International Training at NAIT. "We have a good handle on what their training needs and requirements are."

The eight instrumentation students and seven millwrights will be training in the Edmonton area for eight months as part of the partnership between NAIT's Corporate and In-



Fifteen students from Madagascar will be training in Edmonton with NAIT and Sherritt-Ambatov.

This is the first time NAIT has seen a group from Madagascar and has been excited to learn about the culture from these students.

"We welcome them with

open arms," says Garcia.

Upon arriving at the airport, Khaled Abdurahim was there to greet them that November day.

"They looked shy and spoke very little English,"

says Abdurahim, project co-ordinator responsible for the student's logistic support during their stay at NAIT.

Part of what makes this program so unique is that

"These students are very keen and very knowledgeable; they basically picked the cream of the crop."

Ignacio Garcia

all of the technical training is being delivered in French.

"We now have no problem communicating with them," says Abdurahim.

With a 50 C temperature difference from Madagascar, these students are adjusting well to the Alberta white winter.

Along with their technical skills, this group also brings some musical talent with them, with all of them able to either sing or play instruments.

They had the chance to show off these skills this past weekend when they entertained guests at NAIT's Annual SS Benefit Cruise.

"They're a great bunch of guys that have fit in well at our institution," says Abdurahim.

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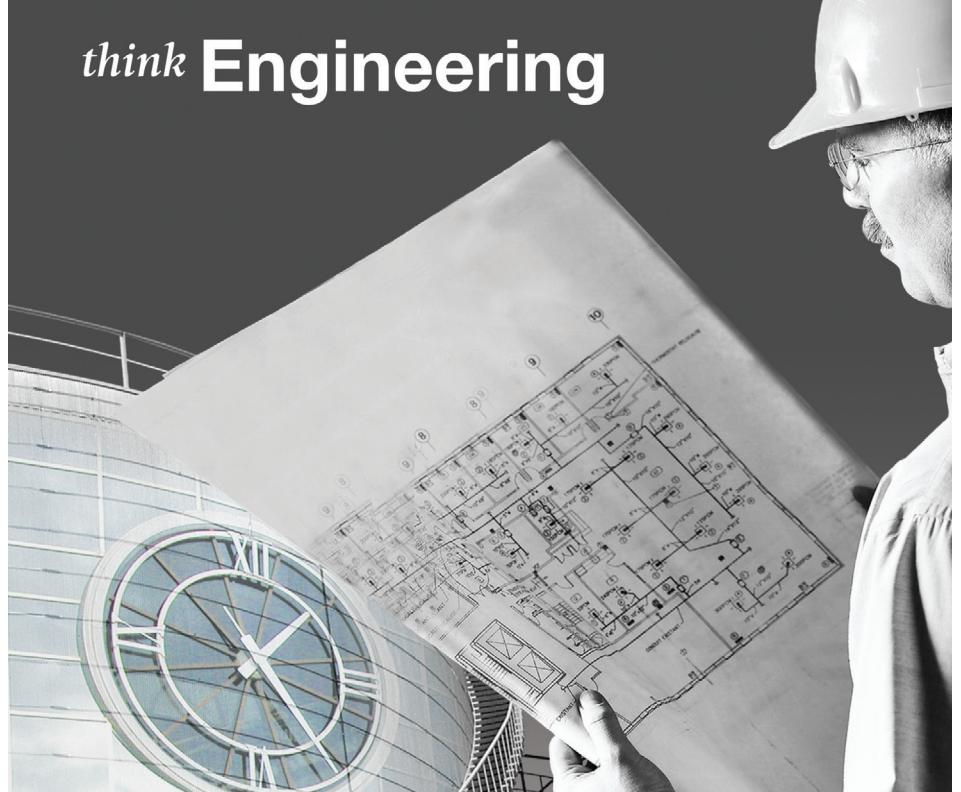
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Learning Curve is a monthly feature that focuses on education and student life. Next month's issue comes out on April 14.

learning curve **17**

New technology for nurses

ALICIA FOX
for Metro Edmonton



Nurses at Norquest College are talking to, interacting with, and diagnosing patients without ever meeting a soul.

New at the college are innovative mannequins — which are similar to those featured on Grey's Anatomy not too long ago — that breathe, bleed, and interact with the student to prepare them for what they'll be dealing with on a daily basis.

"They're exciting for the nursing field," said Jennifer Schneider, who is with the two-year nursing diploma program. "When I look at it and they're blinking at me, it is a little bit creepy but it's very exciting for learning purposes."

She said instructors can stand outside of the room and speak through the mannequins, interacting with the students to play out scenarios and allow the student to "diagnose" the artificial human.

While they've had the technology at the school since September 2008, Schneider said they were

introduced in January, and help prepare the student for the clinical work that's part of their requirements for their diploma.

"It's not as scary to go to clinical when you've had experience with the mannequins," she said.

The mannequins are just one example of the new technology that the program is integrating into its curriculum for its students and the school hopes it will attract new students.

"I'm enjoying (the program) so far," said student Jessica Belding, 23, who will graduate in April 2010.

Belding says it's good to get acquainted with equipment such as the machine for taking blood pressure before using it on a living human, adding students are less nervous and more sure of themselves that way.

For any interested students, Norquest is holding an open house.

"We go through the program and field any questions with the students," Schneider said.

The March 24 information session will be held at the Health Education Centre at 10232-106 St. from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

More than a board game

CANDICE WARD
for Metro Edmonton



King me. For Jonathan Schaeffer, those two words put an end to an 18-year obsession with the game of checkers.

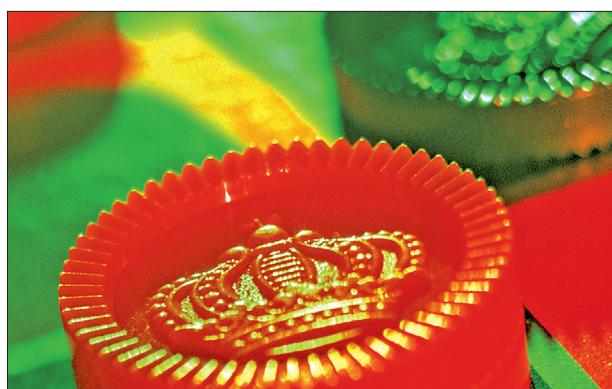
The Chinook project, a computer program designed to defeat the human World Checkers Champion, was put to rest in 2007, leaving Schaeffer to follow a new passion.

"I seem to be obsessed with long-running projects," says Schaeffer, vice-provost and associate vice-president of information technology at the University of Alberta.

Enjoying the 15 minutes of fame that followed the completion of the Chinook project, Schaeffer quickly moved on to other involved projects.

He has since written a book about the trials and tribulations of the Chinook project titled One Jump Ahead: Challenging Human Supremacy in Checkers.

"I had to tell the story; the project will never die," says Schaeffer.



The Chinook project is a computer program designed to defeat the human World Checkers Champion.

The Chinook project was recognized by the Guinness Book of World Records as the first program to win a human championship in 1996.

The University of Waterloo graduate has also developed and commercialized a poker-playing program called Poker Academy.

Schaeffer has now developed a new fixation, designing a program for general game play, a program where the rules to a game are fed in and the program figures out how to defeat it.

"I am the typical professor, you finish one thing and you move onto the next thing," says Schaeffer. "This is my vice."

Probably one of the last people you would want to invite over for a games night, Schaeffer is committed to advancing the role of artificial intelligence into the world of game play.

Fascinated by artificial intelligence, Schaeffer hopes to one day leave his mark in the computer world.

"I would like to know that one day I have made a contribution to advancing our understanding of how to make computers do intelligent things," he says.

Along with the support of his loving family, Schaeffer would not be able to achieve these sometimes seemingly hair-brained goals without a team behind him to assist.

One member of the Chinook team recalls what it was like to work alongside Schaeffer.

"I tried to stay on top of things, but Jonathan would often beat me to it," says Neil Burch, research programmer at U of A, who worked with Schaeffer on the Chinook project for about four years.

Burch described Schaeffer as enthusiastic, imaginative and was never bothered by the intense interest Schaeffer showed in projects.

"Maybe everyone is kind of bizarre and I don't notice," says Burch.

With the right mix of bizarre and brilliance, Schaeffer might be able to bring back some of that world-wide recognition the U of A received with the Chinook project.

"At least, in my own mind, I am world-famous, so to speak," says Schaeffer.

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18 learning curve

U of A gets research funding

ALICIA FOX
for Metro Edmonton



The University of Alberta is looking forward to continuing ground-breaking research and advancing its prestige thanks to new funding awarded for five research chairs.

Lorne Babiuk, vice-president (research) at the U of A, said the funding "allows us (the school) to recruit world-class scientists that we might not be able to get to Alberta otherwise."

The funding allows the individuals to spend more time on research, and usually less on instructing, and gives them more clout to apply for more research grants if needed from the government.

Ujjayant Chakravorty, who was recently funded as a Tier I chair, is spending his newfound time researching fossil fuels, alternative energy sources, and the broader economics of moving into cleaner fuels.

"There's still a lot of work to be done," said Chakravorty, who is originally from India and brings to the university experience from

working in various areas of the world, including France and the United States.

He said his job is also to examine issues such as trade between countries and positive and negative implications within those trades, and bringing them into his teaching.

"Hopefully that will attract other students to come to our university," he said.

Babiuk also sees the appointment of the chairs as something positive, saying that "quality breeds quality, and success breeds success."

"World-class researchers ... will attract world-class students," Babiuk said. "These students are really the engine of our research economy and they keep developing new ideas and new concepts. It really is a continuum of success."

He said the chairs also bring direct benefit to society, as the chairs have a better say in potentially changing or improving public policy in their respective areas.

Chakravorty agrees, saying it brings recognition and credibility to the work they do and shows that they "have something to say."

Within the five Canada research chairs named were two who had their funding renewed: Geral Haubl in behavioural science and electronic commerce, and Andrew Waskiewicz in genetics of vertebrate development.

Joanne Lemieux was named Canada research chair in membrane protein structure and function; Jillian Buriak was advanced from Tier II to Tier I funding in inorganic and nanoscale materials; and Ujjayant Chakravorty was named Tier I Canada research chair in natural resource economics.

The difference between Tier I and Tier II is mostly seniority. Tier I denotes a more senior position and receives \$200,000 per year for seven years from the government; Tier II is a five-year chair with \$100,000 per year set aside.

The university also provides significant funding to both tiers.

The school now holds 92 Canada research chairs, and holds a position as one of the top 100 teaching and research universities worldwide.



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Health & Beauty

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

Recession stress

DENISE SURETTE
for Metro Canada

Recession stress is affecting everybody. Whether you're a business owner, a student with a part-time job or unemployed — money is on everyone's mind.

"During recessions, people recognize they're having difficulty with sleep and appetite," says Dr. Eilenna Denisoff, team leader for the work stress and health program for the Centre of Addictions and Mental Health in Toronto, Ont.

So how do you deal with recession stress?

"Seek out social support, connect with friends, talk with friends and family that make you feel better, not worse," says Denisoff.

Exercise is also great de-

Riding the Recession

stressor, says Denisoff. Besides the mood-elevating endorphins, exercise can be a great way to take your mind off your worries and improve your health and self-esteem.

If you or your partner are feeling the effects of work stress, support each other with small acts of kindness.

"Acknowledge it's a stressful time in a gentle way," says Denisoff. "Offer to help prepare a meal or suggest a walk together, rent a funny movie or go out with friends."

Other ways to de-stress include: Going for a brisk walk, starting a journal or playing with your pet.

Do you stay or do you go?

The J Spot

Josey Vogels

metronews.ca/thejspot

don't understand why everyone got so mad at Jason. Okay, so maybe The Bachelor shouldn't have proposed to Melissa on national television when he was clearly conflicted and had unresolved feelings for Molly.

But give the guy a break. He got caught up in the moment and convinced himself that a lifetime with Melissa was the way to go.

And it's not like he turned around the next day and ditched her. It was six

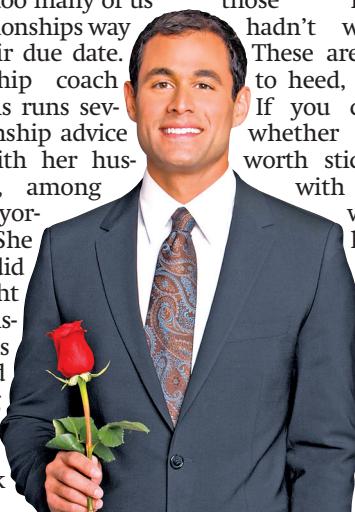
months later. A lot can happen in six months. Would you rather he stay in the relationship, even marry Melissa, simply because he said he would on national TV?

Because, goodness knows, far too many of us stay in relationships way beyond their due date.

Relationship coach Susie Collins runs several relationship advice websites with her husband Otto, among them stayor-go.com. She says Jason did the right thing by listening to his heart and not trying to make a relationship work

that was doomed to fail — especially when his heart was saying, "Be with Molly."

Jason said there were warning signs telling him Melissa had similar characteristics to women he'd been with before — and those relationships hadn't worked out. These are good signs to heed, says Collins. If you can't decide whether or not it's worth sticking it out with someone when you're having doubts, ask yourself if your partner is similar to those



Bachelor
star Jason
Mesnick.

in past relationships that haven't worked out. In other words, are you making the same mistakes over and over again — only with different people?

And because there is some truth to that old adage: It's not you, it's me, Collins suggests you ask yourself some tough personal questions before dragging someone else along for a ride to nowhere, such as: Why are you in the relationship at all? What are you afraid of if you stay? If you go?

"It's amazing how many of us are content to stay stuck in limbo about their relationship," said Collins.

Josey Vogels is a sex and relationship columnist and author of five books on the subjects. For more info, visit joseyvogels.com.

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Pamela Anderson accidentally flashed her breasts while walking for Vivienne Westwood in Paris. The actress and model suffered a wardrobe malfunction on the runway, as her black dress slipped down to reveal her nipple to a shocked audience, reports the Daily Mail. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

New neighbour

The CW has reportedly signed a deal for Ashlee Simpson-Wentz to move into Melrose Place. She plans to return to TV as a small-town girl who arrives in Los Angeles with a big secret. PEOPLE.COM

The business of new music

More than 500 musicians from around the globe hit the stage at Canadian Music Week

IAN NATHANSON
for Metro Canada



Canadian Music Week

Among the hundreds of bands, solo artists and such who congregate at Canadian Music Week festivities each year, all share one common premise: Getting noticed — by the right people, in the right place, at the right opportunity moment.

And if attempts to stand out in a crowd of some 500 Canadian, U.S. and international artists sound too daunting a task, CBC Radio 3 personality Grant Lawrence suggests a much simpler approach to the four-day music festival, which runs tomorrow through Saturday. The networking opportunities are just too good to pass up.

"Instead of just having artists constantly touring, which can get to be very expensive, CMW brings the industry all together in one city as a one-stop shop of panel discussions, live showcases and meetings with the music industry

folk," says the Vancouver-based Lawrence, whose satellite radio programs and podcasts for CBC Radio 3 offer one of the few strong mediums in Canada to promote independent talent. You could be any one of West Coasters Vancougar, East Coasters Hey Rosetta! or already famous names — Sloan, Burton Cummings or Anvil — showcasing, curiously witnessing unfamiliar acts, schmoozing with record label execs or taking part in panel discussions with radio industry folk. If lucky enough, they can all sit in to hear legendary Kiss bassist Gene Simmons deliver a keynote speech.

Lawrence also points out that CMW can often be utilized as a stepping stone to appearing at other prestigious music festivals such as South By Southwest (SXSW) in Austin, Texas or New York City's CMJ Music Marathon.



"It can only have a positive effect for those participating, so it's practically a necessity to be there," Lawrence says.

From the perspective of performers, fresh-faced talent should make the most of the networking aspects CMW offers, according to broadcaster, researcher and former Canadian bureau chief of Billboard magazine Larry LeBlanc.

"You need to target a booking agent and a manager with two or three artists ... and try to find acts that stylistically complement with what you do and suggest a co-venture," LeBlanc says.

For the music fan, the plethora of talent appearing at CMW would go against the grain of reported suggestions that the music industry is on its death knell.

In this Internet-friendly era, the added power of online promotion — whether aided by Lawrence's shows, worldwide exposure via YouTube and MySpace or mere chats between friends — assures the likes of Edmonton's quirky pop-rockers Hot Panda establish as loyal a fan base as Montreal trip-rock duo Beast.

"A lot of people out there would be quick to say that



CBC Radio 3 host Grant Lawrence, above, says CMW can be a stepping stone to other festivals. It's also an opportunity for acts like Edmonton's Hot Panda, left, to show their stuff.

the music today is worse now than it was years ago. I have a problem with that belief," LeBlanc says. "If you look hard enough, there's a ton of great music being made."

Alberta at CMW

- Chad VanGaalen (Calgary)
- Hot Panda (Edmonton)
- Women (Calgary)

In brief

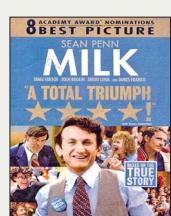
MUSIC Rock-and-rollers have a new place to unleash their inner guitar hero and hear how British bands like the Beatles, Led Zeppelin and The Clash roared their way across the Atlantic to make musical history. The British Music Experience uses video, memorabilia and exhibits to trace Britain's musical history following World War II. REUTERS

DVD picks

Milk

Director: Gus Van Sant
TWO REMARKABLE transformations are at the heart of Gus Van Sant's affecting portrait of Harvey Milk, the slain 1970s San Francisco politician and civil rights icon. First and foremost is Sean Penn's title

performance, which recently won him his second Oscar. Here he's hope personified, easily adopting



his subject's ready smile and very much resembling the first openly gay politician in California's history.

The other impressive transformation is director Van Sant. As a gay man himself, Van Sant might have been expected to elevate his subject beyond

the near-sainthood status accorded him from his 1978 assassination at the hands of a deranged politician.

Instead he takes the more honest and dramatically satisfying route. He astutely uses documentary footage to remind viewers

of how unliberated the 1970s really were.

Penn portrays Milk as a flawed and self-interested man for whom personal epiphany came slowly, but who experienced a history-altering "road to Damascus" moment when it did.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



SPEAKING FROM THE DRAGONS' DEN

An evening with Arlene Dickinson, CEO, Venture Communications Ltd.
As seen on Dragons' Den, CBC TV

Thursday, March 26 @6:30 pm | Shaw Theatre, NAIT Main Campus,
11762-106 Street, Edmonton | Tickets: \$20.40 per person



nait.ca

Martha Stewart's puppy dies in blast

Martha Stewart is mourning the loss of her beloved Chow Chow, Ghenghis Khan, who died in a deadly propane explosion at a kennel in Pennsylvania on Friday. [USMAGAZINE.COM](#)

**entertainment 21**

Designs that work

Stella McCartney showcases mature collection

Stella McCartney injected some masculinity into her signature soft, feminine designs with belted spray-print dresses and tapered trousers yesterday, adding to a string of Paris collections courting the working woman.

Faced with the end of the luxury boom, designers at Paris Fashion Week have moved from party frocks for socialites towards more wearable, sellable clothes — although McCartney brushed off questions about the impact of the economic crisis.

"What crisis?" she said after her show, laughing before turning away to discuss the thigh-high faux leather boots and lace-and-wool dresses in her collection.

While the British designer has long been known for her flattering silhouettes, there has been a broader trend towards grown-up fashion, from Karl Lagerfeld's strong-shouldered coats to big-shouldered blue cardigans at Emanuel Ungaro.



Designer Stella McCartney, centre, poses backstage with models after her show during Paris Fashion Week yesterday.

Most of the power suits, knee-length skirts and subtly sexy dresses with lace inserts shown in Paris over

the past few days could have been worn by the buyers and editors in the front row — unlike the mi-

"I thought it was fabulous — very mature and chic, and inventive with those boots."

Paul McCartney

cro-minis and bra tops of past seasons.

"I'd like to give women something they get noticed in but won't be overwhelmed by," McCartney said.

Her father, Paul McCartney, was beaming proudly from the front row. "I thought it was fabulous — very mature and chic, and inventive with those boots," he said, adding that his daughter sometimes designed his stage suits.

Many American buyers, usually a visible presence at the Milan and Paris shows, have stayed away from the autumn/winter shows, preferring to order online or over the phone.

REUTERS

Watchmen No. 1 film around world

BOX OFFICE Watchmen easily finished No. 1 at the weekend box office overseas, mirroring its North American bow.

Director Zack Snyder's superhero fantasy, the first big worldwide launch of 2009, grossed an estimated \$27.5 million from 45 markets. Its tally is the biggest since Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa earned \$31.1 million in early January.

Watchmen opened at No. 1 in the U.K. (\$4.6 million), Russia (\$2.3 million), Australia (\$2.3 million), Italy (\$1.6 million), Korea (\$1.4 million), Brazil, Mexico and the Netherlands.

REUTERS

GlobalStyle

Kenya Hunt

Read Paris Fashion Week reviews, exclusively at [metronews.ca/globalstyle](#)



For complete online movie listings, trailers, reviews and tickets, visit: [metronews.ca/movies](#)

Entertainment in brief

FILM Tracy Morgan and Martin Lawrence are joining Chris Rock in a remake of the ensemble comedy Death at a Funeral. Neil LaBute will direct the film.

AUDITIONS CBC's Dragon's Den is holding auditions for its fourth season. Visit [cbc.ca/dragonsden](#) for more information.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



IN THEATRES MARCH 20

VISIT METRONEWS.CA AND ENTER FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN!

No purchase necessary. One entry per person. Contest open to Canadian residents of legal age, excluding residents of Quebec. Contest closes March 13, 2009 at 11:59 pm. Odds of winning depend on number of entries received. For full contest rules and details, visit [www.metronews.ca](#).

metro

critics' corner

Wild Roses

And up from the ground come a-bubblin' crude. Oil, that is. Black gold. Texas tea. OK, Alberta tea, in this case. Will drops a bombshell on the Henrys: Yes, there is oil under Rivercross. Now the question becomes, how should they get it out? Gary Hudson and Adam MacDonald also star in the new episode "Boom and Bust." 9 PM on CBXT



Without a Trace

When a federal agent's teenage son disappears, the Missing Persons Squad and new boss Clark Medina are on the case and uncover a long-held family secret with potentially deadly ramifications in "True/False." 8 PM on EDACCESS; 11:01 PM on KREM

The Biggest Loser

After a pop challenge that adds an interesting twist to the weigh-in, the contestants compete in a relay race, with the winning team getting 24 hours of luxury. Some contestants are unable to resist temptation during the getaway, however. Alison Sweeney is host. 9 PM on KHQ CHTV

	C	B	S	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
3/10/09	2 CFRN 239 318	etalk	Hollywood	Law & Order: SVU		American Idol (HDTV) Top 12 finalists perform.				News (N)		
	3 KHQ - 370	News (N)	Be-Millionaire	Jeopardy! (N)	Wheel-Fortune	The Biggest Loser (N)				Law/Ord SVU		
	4 CBXT - 307	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Rick Mercer	22 Minutes	Wild Roses (N) (DVS)		CBC News: The National		The Hour		
	6 KREM - 372	News (N)	Hollywood	The Doctors (N)		NCIS "Heartland" (HDTV)		The Mentalist (HDTV)		Without Trace		
	7 CKEM 241 347	Law & Order: SVU		Primetime: What Would		Privileged		Scrubs	Scrubs	Your City		
	8 CITY 240 339	ET Canada	Entertainment	90210 "By Accident"		NCIS "Heartland" (HDTV)		Project Runway Canada		News Hour		
	11 OMNI -	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	News		News		The Simpsons	King	Metropia		
	12 CBXFT 119 705	Virginie (SC)	La Façture	Providance (HDTV) (SC)		Roxy (SC) Roxy (SC)		Le Téléjournal et Les Nou		TJ Alberta		
	13 KXLY - 371	4 News at 6	4 News at 6:30	Entertainment	The Insider (N)	Homeland Security USA		Scrubs	Scrubs	Primerite: You		
	16 KAYU - 373	The Simpsons	Raymond	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	American Idol (HDTV) Top 12 finalists perform.		News (N)				
	19 CHTV -	- The Insider (N)	E! News	Dr. 90210 "Slice of Life"		The Biggest Loser (N)		News (N)				
	22 KSPS - 374	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer		Magnificent Mind at Any Age With Dr. Daniel Amen				Roy Orbison & Friends: Black & White Night				
	24 WTVS - 364	Great Performances "Pavarotti: A Life in Seven Arias"				My Music: Doo Wop Love Songs				Suze Orman		
	15 CBCN 502 -	CBC News: The National		Twelve (N)		CBC News: The National		CBC News: The National		Twelve		
	21 TWN 505 398	(5) EarthWatch One	EarthWatch One			EarthWatch Two						
	27 CNN 500 500	Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)				Larry King Live		Cooper 360		
	54 CTVN 501 391	CTV Newsnet		News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News		
	70 BNN 504 508	Squeeze Play		Market Call		Headline	Market Call	Commodities	Business News	Squeeze Play		
	20 TSN 400 400	(6) Curling Tim Hortons Brier -- Draw 11.				SportsCentre		UEFA Champions League Soccer				
	23 net 408 418	NHL Hockey		Baseball World Classic -- Teams TBA. (HDTV) From Rogers Centre in Toronto. (Live)						Sportsnet Con.		
	47 SPEED 417 406	Super Bikes!	Super Bikes!	Hot Import	Hot Import	Pimp My Ride	Pass Time	Low Life	Low Life	Super Bikes!		
	94 SCORE 410 403	(5:30) Court Surfing		Score Tonight		Hardcore Hockey Talk		Poker 888.com UK Open.		Final Score		
	9 EDACC 267 351	Alberta Primetime (Live)		Without a Trace (HDTV)		Reaper (HDTV) (N)		Smallville		Primetime		
	14 YTV 552 543	Drake & Josh	iCarly	Adrenaline Proj	Prank Patrol	Malcolm-Mid.	Futurama	Family Biz	Prank Patrol	Falcon Beach		
	17 TREE 553 546	Little Bear	Maggie-Beast	Comfy Couch	Zigby	Max & Ruby	Babar	Backyardigans	Dora-Explorer	Go, Diego, Go!		
	42 TOON 555 545	Ben 10: Alien	Johnny Test	Totally Spies	Total Drama	6TEEN	Futurama	American Dad	Robot Chicken			
	45 FAM 557 541	Zoey 101	Life Derek	Wizards-Place	Han. Montana	Zack & Cody	Latest Buzz	Wizards-Place	Life Derek	Ned's School		
	- TVA 121 714	TVA 18 heures	Le Cercle (SC)	Les Gags	Star Académie: La Fière de la danse (SC)			La Promesse (HDTV) (SC)		TVA 22 heures		
	18 CMT 575 583	Reba		Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	CMT's Top 20 Tearjerkers		Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Reba		
	25 A&E 615 520	The First 48 (HDTV)		Manhunters	Manhunters	Manhunters	Manhunters	The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48		
	26 MMM 571 581	Gene Simmons	Gene Simmons	Gene Simmons	Gene Simmons	Listed		Party of Five		Gene Simmons		
	29 FOOD 603 561	The F Word		Good Eats	Good Eats	Iron Chef America		Challenge		The F Word		
	31 SHOW 617 522	Wife Swap		The Outer Limits		Mutant X		Testees	Trailer Park	The L Word		
	32 DISC 520 505	Destroyed	Time Warp	Combat School (N)		Daily Planet		Destroyed	Time Warp	Combat School		
	33 SLICE 601 562	Rich Bride, Poor Bride		Rich Bride, Poor Bride		ET Canada Til Debt-Part		Real Housewives OC		Trading Sp		
	34 W 602 567	Style by Jury	Style by Jury	Will & Grace	Friends	How to Look Good Naked		Style by Jury	Style by Jury	Good Naked		
	35 TLC 521 560	17 Kids and Counting		Toddlers & Tiaras		17 Kids-Count	17 Kids-Count	17 Kids and Counting		Toddler-Tiara		
	36 BRAVO 620 523	Johnny Cash Live at Montreux 1994		Glee Club		Law & Order		Without a Trace "Stolen"		Pio		
	38 SPIKE 628 584	Ultimate Knockouts 3		DEA "Flip The Stripper" (N)		Real Vice	Real Vice	CSI: NY "Boo" (HDTV)		Disorderly		
	40 HIST 622 506	Crime Stories	NCIS			Sea Hunters		Cities of the Underworld		Engineering		
	41 COM 626 547	Laughs	Comedy Now	Air Farce	Just for Laughs		Corner Gas	The Simpsons South Park		S. Silverman		
	43 SPACE 627 528	Torchwood		(8:05) Destination Truth (N)		Stargate SG-1		Star Trek: Next Gener.		Trek: Voyager		
	44 WPCH 294 650	(6) Lethal Weapon 4 (1998, Action)		Seinfeld		Family Guy	Family Guy	200 Cigarettes (1999, Romance-Comedy)				
	46 OLN 411 457	Mantracker		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Survivorman		Mantracker		Bounty Hunter		
	48 TROP 619 525	What Happen?	What Happen?	Planet Soap	Big Screen	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Raymond	Family Guy		
	50 STAR 621 527	Living the Life	Look-A-Like	The Tonight Show-Jay Leno		TMZ	etalk	The View (HDTV)		Ellen Show		
	52 HGTV 600 564	Sarah's House	Design Inc.	Colin & Justin's Home Heist		Holmes on Homes		Sarah's House Design Inc.		Pure Design		
	65 TLN 700 800	UEFA Champ		Raymond	Raymond	George Lopez	George Lopez	The Sopranos (SS)		David Rocco		
	92 APTN 269 350	Wings-Canada	Storytellers	Wapost Bay								



Kylie slated for fire benefit
shows in Sydney and Melbourne for the victims of bushfires and floods in her native Australia this weekend. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Celebrity Buzz

Chris Brown to cut a deal?

LEGAL Now that he knows what charges he's facing, Chris Brown reportedly wants to cut a deal with prosecutors in the case over his alleged assault of Rihanna.

Sources tell TMZ Brown would be willing to enter a plea deal, but only to a misdemeanor and with no jail time. The sources say legal consultants have suggested that Rihanna's own aggression during the February incident mean that Brown should not be charged with a felony.



Kanye and Kelly do Idol duet

CAREER Grammy winner Kelly Clarkson will be dropping in on her TV alma mater, American Idol — and bringing a superstar friend along: Kanye West. Clarkson and West will share the stage as performers during Wednesday's elimination show, popeater.com reports.

West, making his first appearance on the Fox series, will perform "Heartless" from his latest album 808s & Heartbreak. Clarkson, the original Idol, will sing "My Life Would Suck Without You," off her new album that drops today.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



'He will hit you again,' Oprah warns Rihanna

SCANDAL Oprah Winfrey gave a stern warning to Rihanna, who has taken back Chris Brown (who has been charged with two felonies for assaulting her last month), us-magazine.com reports.

"Both Chris Brown and Rihanna, if I were your friend, I'd call

you up and say, 'Give it some time. Get yourself some counselling.'

Take care of yourself. Heal yourself first," said Winfrey, who will dedicate

a program this week to discussing domestic violence for "all the Rihannas

of the world."

Looking directly into the camera, Winfrey added during Friday's episode of her talk show, "If a man hits you once, he will hit you again. He will hit you again."

Echoed Gayle King, "If you guys want to get back together, I'm OK with that. But at least take some time. I am so worried she is sending the wrong message to the young fans. And him, too!"

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Amy's comeback derailed

CAREER Amy Winehouse has hit a hurdle in her hopes for a musical comeback, people.com reports.

The troubled singer, 25, has been forced to cancel her appearance next month at California's Coachella Music Festival because of the charges she faces in London over an alleged assault last September.

Denying that she has actually been denied access to the U.S., her rep Chris Goodman does confirm to People, "She cannot go be-

cause of current legal issues."

She has, however, been confirmed as a major act at a 50th birthday celebration of her British record label, Island, on May 31.

It is believed that Winehouse, who has been settling into her new home after her lengthy Caribbean vacation, had begun the

process of getting a work visa for Coachella but had yet to make a full application. Her London court date is March 17.

When she answered police bail last week and was formally charged, her management assumed that her legal case would not "be sorted out in time" for her to make the music fest.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



I'm a weight loss 'sell-out': Seth

PEOPLE Seth Rogen has tantrums when he can't eat, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The actor has shed 30 lbs for his lead role in the comic book adaptation of The Green Hornet, but doesn't think he will be able to maintain his new figure because dieting has

made him so emotional.

"I lost the weight for a role, but I don't know if I'll keep it off. That's the big question. I have a lot of tantrums. I want my food. I cry for no reason," he said.

The actor admits he feels like a "sell-out" for trying to slim down.

He recently

said: "It's for The Green Hornet — the only reason. There's no other reason."

Despite winning praise for his new figure, Seth says his girlfriend Lauren Miller is indifferent to his new look: "She's stuck by me through thick and thin — literally! She claims she doesn't like me any more now than when I was heavier, but I think that's completely not true."

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Wednesday
Mostly cloudy
-12°C / -29°C

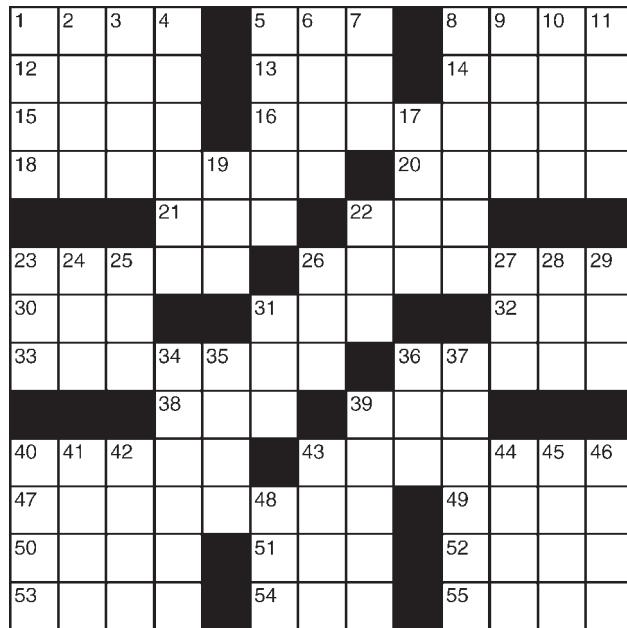
Thursday
Some clouds
-3°C / -19°C



BT BREAKFAST
TELEVISION

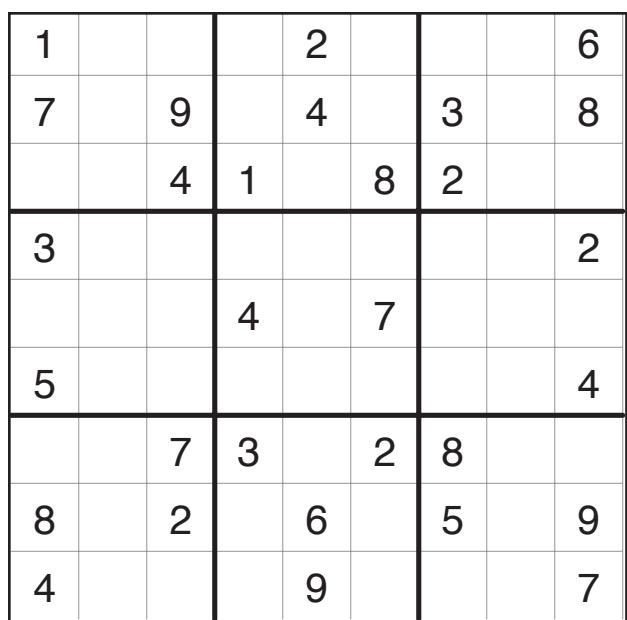
Michele McDougall, Weather Specialist & Host - Breakfast Television
"My favourite part is reporting the weather. It fascinates me, and as we know around here, it's always changing, keeping forecasters on their toes."

WEEKDAYS AT 6 A.M.

**Sudoku**

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

**Crossword across**

1 Coffin stand
5 Mayberry mail abbr.
8 Rams fans?
12 Run easily
13 Barcelona bravo
14 Speck
15 Ear-related
16 Resoluteness
18 Tasks as yet undone
20 Fuzzbuster's find
21 So five minutes ago
22 Supporting
23 Word on the street?
26 Spoke spitefully about
30 "— the ramparts ..."
31 Cowboy nickname

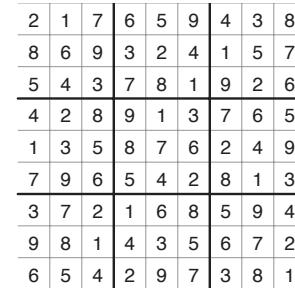
32 Blond shade
33 Excavating machine
36 Abdomen
38 Dinner for Dobbin
39 Sass
40 As cross as —
43 Illuminated from behind
47 Setting
49 Franc replacement
50 Grades K through 12
51 Historic time
52 Oklahoma city
53 "Vaya con —"
54 Shriner's hat
55 Mexican money

Crossword down

1 Amorphous sci-fi villain
2 Title
3 Grand story
4 Believe
5 Automaton
6 Banner
7 Xmas time
8 Set off on a journey
9 Lumber
10 Sicilian spouter
11 Palm reader, e.g.
17 McDonald's founder Ray

19 Drag wearily
22 Office transmission
23 Blubber
24 Meadow
25 Curved line
26 Spelling contest
27 Emeril's shout
28 Doctrine
29 Commandment possessive
31 Plaything
34 Some military garb
35 Difficult

36 Spasm
37 Maintenance
39 Bolivian city
40 Sleeping
41 Indonesian island
42 Reverberate
43 Unwanted guest, maybe
44 "Clair de —"
45 Rainbow
46 Commotion
48 Ump

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:

Under 13 min Genius
13-17 min Scholar

17-21 min Smart
21-25 min Not bad
25+ min Keep practising

Take Five**Metro Recipe of the Day****Goulash in a Hurry****INGREDIENTS:**

2 tbsp (25 ml) extra-virgin olive oil
1 large onion, minced
2 garlic cloves, crushed
3 thick lean, boneless pork loin chops, cut into thin strips
1 tbsp (15 ml) all-purpose flour
2 x 14-oz (398-ml) cans crushed tomatoes
1/2 cup (125 ml) extra-dry vermouth
2 tbsp (25 ml) paprika
1 tsp (5 ml) caraway seeds
1 tsp (5 ml) sugar
2 chicken bouillon cubes, crumbled

1 large green pepper, seeded and chopped
3 cups (750 ml) finely shredded red cabbage
Salt and fresh-ground black pepper

TO SERVE:

4 tbsp (60 ml) sour cream
Paprika
Fresh chives

METHOD:

1. Heat oil in large frying pan or pot over high heat. Add onion, garlic and pork, and sauté 3 minutes or until meat changes colour and becomes firm,

and onion is slightly soft. Meanwhile, blend flour with 4 tbsp (60 ml) juice from canned tomatoes for a smooth paste; set aside. 2. Stir vermouth, paprika, caraway seeds and sugar into the frying pan. Add tomatoes, breaking them up as you mix. Stir in bouillon cubes and flour-and-tomato-juice mixture. Bring to boil, stirring, and boil until juices thicken. 3. Stir in green pepper and red cabbage until both are coated in cooking juices. Reduce heat, cover frying pan, and simmer 15 minutes or until meat is cooked and vegetables are crisp-tender.

4. Taste goulash and season with salt and pepper, if necessary. Ladle goulash into bowls and top each with spoonful of sour cream and a sprinkle of paprika. Garnish with chives and serve. **SERVES 4**

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!

**Horoscopes****AVATAR VENUS****ARIES****MARCH 21-APRIL 20****TAURUS**
APRIL 21-MAY 21

A pest needs a stronger cure. A friend's generosity will please someone. Attend get-togethers to increase your job chances.

LIBRA**SEPT 23-OCT 23**

A happy-go-lucky guy makes a surprising confession. A notorious liar is being passive-aggressive. An apathetic person causes discomfort.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22

Somebody is still waiting for an answer. You'll justify buying a comforting toy. A stoical person gets the message that the time has come.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21

A weird mystery is solved by a liar. Try to discourage any rash decisions. You'll attract some compliments.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21

A sentimental woman finds happiness. Weather creates relationship problems. A powerful person is on your side.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22

A zany friend complains of hustle and bustle. Pay attention to what isn't being said. Try something you've never done before.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20

A replacement becomes necessary. A moving statement causes excitement. Loving gestures will be made.

LEO**JULY 23-AUG 23**

A man thrives in a seething condition. You can resist the pangs of sadness. Someone's whining provokes idle threats.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18

An old-timer shoots down a useless theory. Take stock of what you need. You'll find the way to make dreams come true.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22

A sophisticated woman accuses you of emotional detachment. Offer your services to help out. People are talking about a tempting offer.

PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20

Be passionate about a just cause. Social events will slow to a crawl. A guilt trip can bring you good luck.

This day in history

MARCH 10, 1848: The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo is ratified by the United States Senate, ending the Mexican-American War.

MARCH 10, 1876: Alexander Graham Bell makes the first successful telephone call by saying "Mr. Watson, come here, I want to see you."

MARCH 10, 1959: Tibetan uprising: Fearing an abduction attempt by China, 300,000 Tibetans surround the Dalai Lama's palace to prevent his removal.

MARCH 10, 2000: The NASDAQ Composite stock market index peaks at 5132.52, signalling the beginning of the end of the dot-com boom.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

WORDY GURDY®

BY TRICKY RICKY KANE

1. One-liner about a Pepsi rival (1)

2. "French" potatoe's dimensions (1)

3. Seize a milk-and-ice-cream drink (1)

4. Dunks Doritos in salsa sauce (1)

5. Five-cent cucumber (2)

6. Cheddar or provolone binges (1)

7. Mall denizen's Burger King burgers (2)

ANSWERS: 1. NICKEL TICKET, 2. FRIES SIZE, 3. TAKE SHREK, 4. DIPS CHIPS, 5. COKE JOLIE, 6. CHEESE SPREADS, 7. SHOPPE'S WHOPPERS

09-10-09

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SOURCE: NADbank Fall 2007/Spring 2008 Survey, read yesterday;
BASE: Montreal, Ottawa-Gatineau, Toronto, Edmonton, Calgary, Vancouver; CMA 18+

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